



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

1,119 steerage passengers and 150 pieces of large baggage ; 1,200 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

May 15, the steamship *Bohenzollern*, of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 642 steerage passengers and 120 pieces of large baggage ; 850 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

May 16, the steamship *Equita*, of the Zini Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 405 steerage passengers and 36 pieces of large baggage ; 800 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

May 17, the steamship *Marco Minghetti*, of the Italian General Navigation Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 762 steerage passengers and 102 pieces of large baggage ; 900 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

Smallpox at Naples.

During the week ended May 17, 1902, there were officially reported at Naples 5 cases of smallpox with no deaths. There are several centers of emigration in the south of Italy, where smallpox is prevalent.

Respectfully,

J. M. EAGER.

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Sterilization of salads.

NAPLES, ITALY, May 16, 1902.

SIR : I have the honor to submit the following report :

The sterilization of salads.

The news reports to the effect that the recent outbreak of the Asiatic cholera at Manila was due to an importation of germs on fresh vegetables brought from Hongkong has given rise to a discussion in Italian medical journals as to the appropriate methods for the sterilization of crude greens. The subject is of especial interest in Italy, where salads form one of the staples of diet. In times of epidemics the question has a bearing on maritime hygiene. Large quantities of salad plants, lettuce, congeners of the cabbage, fennel, and other greens, are usually carried on board ship by emigrants leaving Italy. During the cholera epidemic in 1893, all such articles were prohibited and their exclusion was made a condition to granting the United States consular bill of health. Heat is, of course, inapplicable to the sterilization of fresh food stuffs, inasmuch as their virtues as articles of diet depend largely on their being eaten raw. Popular opinion naturally tends to the view that any hygienic measures applied to salad vegetables should be on the principle of asepsis rather than antiseptics. While the palatability of fresh greens might not be affected by suitable chemical treatment, it is easily understood that the impression produced by the antisepticizing would not be conducive to good cheer. Yet one experimenter, G. Ceresole, writing in the *Policlinico*, recommends the use of tartaric acid. He states that a sample of salad infected experimentally with a culture of the cholera spirillum was sterilized in five minutes by a 2 per cent watery solution of tartaric acid. To avert danger from the consumption of crude greens it is sufficient to immerse them for half

an hour in a 3 per cent solution of tartaric acid. It is asserted that salads so treated and afterwards washed with water are absolutely non-toxic and that their gastronomic qualities are unaffected by the process. It is recorded that the bacilli of pest and of diphtheria are killed in five minutes by a 5 per cent solution of tartaric acid.

The recent studies of Wurtz and Bourger are in point. In these inquiries it was demonstrated that the use of washings of cesspools for manuring truck gardens is perilous to health. Pathogenic organisms thus deposited on vegetables are capable of retaining their virulence for long periods. In France, an official inquiry has been made into this matter and a hygienic commission has confirmed the conclusions of Wurtz and Bourges. The commission was composed of Brouardel, Roux, Wurtz, and Ogier.

Respectfully,

J. M. EAGER,

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

MADAGASCAR.

Plague at Majunga.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 28, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the Department is in receipt of a telegram from the consul of the United States at Tamatave, Madagascar, which reads as follows: "Plague Majunga."

Respectfully,

JOHN HAY,

Secretary of State.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

MEXICO.

Report from Tampico.

TAMPICO, MEXICO, May 23, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to report herewith the number and causes of death which occurred in this city for the seventeen days ended May 17, 1902. Malarial fevers (including pernicioso), 11; typhoid fever, 1; tuberculosis (pulmonary and intestinal), 5; puerperal fever, 1; gastro-intestinal fever, 9; pulmonary, 6; cardio-vascular, 2; scorbutus, 1; senility, 2; infantile debility, 1; traumatism, 2. Total, 41.

This information is obtained from the official records, and, as will be noted, no diseases of a quarantinable nature have been reported.

Hereafter I shall report information of the above character to the Bureau every week.

Respectfully,

JOS. GOLDBERGER,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

A case of yellow fever at Tampico—Imported.

TAMPICO, MEXICO, June 2, 1902.

One yellow fever arrived from Vera Cruz.

GOLDBERGER.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.